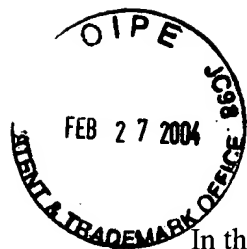


MAR 10 2004



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In the application of:

Arlene RAMSINGH *et al.*

Serial No.: 09/879,572

Filing Date: June 12, 2001

For: COXSACKIEVIRUS B4 EXPRESSION
VECTORS AND USES THEREOF

Examiner: Donna C. Wortman

Group Art Unit: 1648

Atty Dkt: 41356-186746

Customer No.

26694

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

SECOND RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

This responds to the non-final Office Action mailed August 27, 2003, the time for responding to which has been extended 3 months with the accompanying Petition for Extension of Time and fee (via *deposit account*). Also submitted herewith in a Second Declaration of Arlene Ramsingh Under 37 C.F.R. §1.132 ((the "Ramsingh2 Declaration") and her *Curriculum Vitae*.

Claims 1, 3-15, 17, 18, 20-28, and 30-36 are under examination insofar as drawn to the elected invention. Claims 2, 19, and 54-72 remain pending but are withdrawn from consideration as drawn to non-elected inventions. Of these, at least claims 54-72 are expected to be rejoined upon indication of patentable subject matter in the pending claims.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 18, and 20 were newly rejected under §102(b). The rejection of Claims 1, 3-6, 13-15, 17, 18, 20-23, and 28 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) was maintained. Careful consideration has been given to the grounds for rejection and the following amendments and remarks are offered in response. The amendment will moot several grounds of rejection. Reconsideration of the pending rejections is respectfully requested, as is entry of this paper.

The Listing of Claims begins at page 2 of this document and runs through page 7.